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Reliable American journalist who is proceeding Cannes tonight to interview Bao Dai has reported following. Bao Dai is now considering abdicating in favor of two or three man regency or "praesidium". ~~Its~~ If former, members would be Buu Hoi and General Hinh and if latter same ~~plus~~ two plus Buu Loc. Reports furthermore that Bao Dai has been consulting with Hinh and Buu Hoi in recent days on possibility turning over powers to ~~an~~ praesidium as above until such time as constitutional monarchy is established as result referendum or action some parliamentary body (provisional or constituent assembly etc).

Comment: Fantastic as this seems there may be something to it. We know that Buu Hoi is proceeding to Cannes tonight to consult Bao Dai. This morning Raphael-Leygues, long-time French sponsor Buu Hoi, called to say that in present state anarchy Saigon "only man who could save situation is Buu Hoi". We think Bao Dai's capable of doing almost anything at this stage. We regard latter of two allegations as most likely. It is recalled that both Buu Hoi and Buu Loc are members same dynasty as Bao Dai and conceivable he might be considering them as regents to serve until his son Bao Long of age. On balance, however, we find it difficult believe Bao Dai considering abdicating at all and have no evidence authenticity journalists info. We have been unable reach Nguyen De tonight by telephone but expect to do so early tomorrow morning.

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